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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/613,340	07/10/2000	Michael Rogerson	12194-1/JWE	9761

7590 04/08/2004

Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth  
1600 Newport Center Drive  
Suite 1600  
Newport Beach, CA 92660

EXAMINER
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MA, JOHNNY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

DATE MAILED: 04/08/2004

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/613,340

Applicant(s)

ROGERSON, MICHAEL

Examiner

Johnny Ma

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments, see page 13; lines 1-7, filed 12/22/03, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-4 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Galipeau et al. (US 6,249,913) in further view of Kumar et al. (US 5,561,769).
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 5 and 6 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. Claims 1-5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau et al. (US 6,249,913 B1) in further view of Kumar et al. (US 5,561,769).

As to claim 1, note the Galipeau et al. reference that discloses an aircraft data management system. The claimed "plurality of display device, each device including at least a control processor, a local memory storage area and a display" are met by aircraft multimedia communication system having nodes comprising display, memory and processor (see Fig 12 (226); 11:55). The claimed network including a serial wiring harness, the harness interconnecting each of the plurality of display devices is met by seat-to-seat serial cables and harnesses (see Fig. 1 (20), Fig. 9b (20) and col. 4 ln. 31-34) wherein "...on-aircraft data server stores and compresses digital audio and video streams, retrieves the video and audio data, merges it into a continuous stream...delivers it seamlessly to the in-flight distribution network. Operating much like a conventional local area network (LAN)" (see col. 1 ln. 58-65). However, the Galipeau et

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al. reference is silent wherein each of the plurality of display devices cooperating over a local area network defining a distributed server local area network architecture. Now note the Kumar et al. reference that discloses a method and apparatus for executing a distributed algorithm or service on a simple network management protocol based computer network. The Kumar et al. reference discloses a distributed local area network (see col. 3, ln. 4-14) wherein each node is both a manager and an agent (client and server). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Galipeau et al. centralized manager configuration with the Kumar et al. distributed client/server nodes for the purpose of reducing communication overhead that occurs around a management station and alleviating the centralized management's inherent single point of failure (see col. 1, ln. 41-59).

As to claim 2, the modification of claim 1 above yields network nodes of the distributed network at the display devices (see Fig.3 and col.8 ln.49-61), as claimed.

As to claim 3, as noted above, the nodes of the distributed network act as servers in the distributed server network architecture. Galipeau et al. particularly discloses the serving of multiple applications and data from multiple sources (see Fig.12 (192),(198), and col.2 ln.59).

As to claim 4, as noted above, the nodes of the network serve multiple applications and data, which includes email, Web content, video, and telephony, as claimed.

As to claim 5, note the Galipeau et al. reference that discloses an aircraft data management system. The claimed "plurality of display devices, each display device disposed in a location separate from other ones of the plurality of display devices, each display device including at least a control processor, a local memory storage and a graphical display screen" are

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met by locationally separate nodes (see Fig. 1) comprising display, memory and processor (see Fig. 12 (226) and col. 11 ln. 55) as well as seat-to-seat serial cables and harnesses (see Fig. 1 (20), Fig. 9b \*20) and col. 4 ln. 31-34).

The claimed “network signal bus interconnecting each of the plurality of display devices” is met by seat-to-seat serial cables and harnesses (see Fig. 1 (20), Fig. 9b (20) and col. 4 ln. 31-34) wherein “...on-aircraft data server stores and compresses digital audio and video streams, retrieves the video and audio data, merges it into a continuous stream...delivers it seamlessly to the in-flight distribution network. Operating much like a conventional local area network (LAN)” (see col. 1 ln. 58-65). The claimed “communication management unit, coupled to the network signal bus, the communication management unit further coupled to multiple bi-directional communication interface devices, such communication interface device effecting real-time communication with a different one of a multiplicity of substantially incompatible signal sources” are met by network controller 186, aircraft systems 198, and off aircraft communication 188 (see Figure 9a). However, the Galipeau et al. reference is silent wherein each of the plurality of display devices cooperating over a local area network defining a distributed server local area network architecture. Now note the Kumar et al. reference that discloses a method and apparatus for executing a distributed algorithm or service on a simple network management protocol based computer network. The Kumar et al. reference discloses a distributed local area network (see col. 3, ln. 4-14) wherein each node is both a manager and an agent (client and server). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Galipeau et al. centralized manager configuration with the Kumar et al. distributed client/server nodes for the purpose of reducing

communication overhead that occurs around a management station and alleviating the centralized management's inherent single point of failure (see col. 1, ln. 41-59).

As to claim 7, note the Galipeau et al. reference discloses an aircraft multimedia communication system. The claimed "a plurality of display devices, each display device disposed in a location separate from other ones of the plurality of display devices, each display device including at least a control processor, a local memory storage area and a graphical display screen" are met by locationally separate nodes (see Fig. 1) comprising display, memory and processor (see Fig. 12 (226) and col. 11 ln. 55) as well as seat-to-seat serial cables and harnesses (see Fig. 1 (20), Fig. 9b \*20) and col. 4 ln. 31-34). The claimed network signal bus interconnecting each of the plurality of display devices is met by seat-to-seat serial cables and harnesses (see Fig. 1 (20), Fig. 9b (20) and col. 4 ln. 31-34) wherein "...on-aircraft data server stores and compresses digital audio and video streams, retrieves the video and audio data, merges it into a continuous stream...delivers it seamlessly to the in-flight distribution network. Operating much like a conventional local area network (LAN)" (see col. 1 ln. 58-65). The claimed "communication management unit, coupled to the network signal bus, the communication management unit further coupled to multiple bi-directional communication interface devices, such communication interface device effecting real-time communication with a different one of a multiplicity of substantially incompatible signal sources" are met by network controller 186, aircraft systems 198, and off aircraft communication 188 (see Figure 9a). However, the Galipeau et al. reference is silent wherein each of the plurality of display devices cooperating over a local area network defining a distributed server local area network architecture. Now note the Kumar et al. reference that discloses a method and apparatus for executing a distributed

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algorithm or service on a simple network management protocol based computer network. The Kumar et al. reference discloses a distributed local area network (see col. 3, ln. 4-14) wherein each node is both a manager and an agent (client and server). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Galipeau et al. centralized manager configuration with the Kumar et al. distributed client/server nodes for the purpose of reducing communication overhead that occurs around a management station and alleviating the centralized management's inherent single point of failure (see col. 1, ln. 41-59).

As to claim 8, see rejection of claim 7.

As to claim 9, as noted above, the nodes of the distributed network act as servers in the distributed server network architecture. Galipeau et al. particularly discloses the serving of multiple applications and data from multiple sources (see Fig.12 (192),(198), and col.2 ln.59).

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Galipeau et al. (US 6,249,913 B1) in further view of Kumar et al. (US 5,561,769) and Hadinger (US 6,512,921 B1).

As to claim 6, the claimed "first satellite constellation, providing a first type of content" is met by "satellite constellation providing content 242 (see Fig.12 and col.12 ln. 57-63). The claimed "broadband bi-directional VHF communication medium" is met by the system illustrated in Figure 12. However, the Galipeau et al. reference is silent as to a second constellation providing a second type of content. Now note the Hadinger reference that discloses satellite multimedia delivery to vehicles. The claimed "second satellite constellation providing a second type of content" is met by multiple satellites delivering distinct content (see Fig.2 and col.1 ln. 18-30) for the purpose of receiving various types of data in a vehicle. Therefore, the

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examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Galiepeau et al. content with the Hadinger et al. multiple content sources for the purpose of obtaining an enhanced degree of variability and economy.

***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The Margis reference (US 5,568,484) discloses a telecommunications system and method for use on commercial aircraft and other vehicles.

The Humpleman reference (US 5,940,387) discloses a home multimedia network architecture.

The Barton reference (US 6,310,886 B1) discloses a method and apparatus implementing a multimedia digital network.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Johnny Ma whose telephone number is (703) 305-8099. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

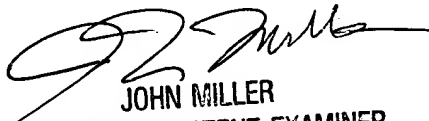
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (703) 305-4795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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jm

  
JOHN MILLER  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600